



SOUTH ASIA: A resurgence of monsoon activity brought widespread, locally heavy rain to southern and eastern India and Bangladesh. In the south, the copious rain (25-50 mm or more) was especially beneficial for immature cotton and oilseeds. Moderate showers (25 mm or more) extended as far north as Maharashtra, but fell short of bringing needed rainfall to groundnut, soybean, and cotton areas of Gujarat and western Madhya Pradesh. Continued dryness could result in significant local declines in yield potential. In the east, heavy rain (50-100 mm or more) was concentrated over rainfed rice areas west of Calcutta and along the lower Ganges River system, maintaining abundant to excessive moisture levels for rice cultivation. Elsewhere, isolated, locally heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) developed over northernmost crop areas of Pakistan and north-central India, boosting late-season moisture reserves, but possibly causing localized damage to maturing cotton. The retreating monsoon resulted in warm, dry weather elsewhere in the northwest, drying grains and cotton. Historically, the summer rainy season has ended by mid-October throughout Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the northern half of India.